Mountain Weather Forecast

Lake District National Park

Forecast valid from 06:00 on Wednesday 25 Dec 2024 until 23:59 on Thursday 26 Dec 2024

Forecast Issued on Wednesday 25 Dec 2024 at 02:18

Confidence: Generally high but lower for detail of cloud cover.

Headline for Wednesday 25 Dec 2024: A rather cloudy Christmas, with patchy light rain. Strong summit winds. Freezing level well above peaks.

Mountain weather hazards on Wednesday 25 Dec 2024

Blizzards No Likelihood	**Heavy persistent snow** No Likelihood	**Storm force winds** No Likelihood
Gales No Likelihood	**Severe chill effect** No Likelihood	**Poor visibility** High Likelihood
Thunderstorms No Likelihood	**Heavy persistent rain** No Likelihood	**Strong sunlight** No Likelihood

Weather and chance of precipitation at 800m					
Time					
06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00
FOG	FOG	FOG	FOG	FOG	FOG
Fog	Fog	Fog	Fog	Fog	Fog
Precipitation probability					
20%	20%	20%	20%	30%	20%

Forecast for Wednesday 25 Dec 2024

Weather: Remaining generally cloudy, and while mainly dry, the odd patch of drizzle is likely. Some breaks in good shelter from the southwest could allow some sunny intervals, though this will be mainly over lower ground and eastern foothills..

Chance of cloud-free hill tops above 800m: 10%

Low cloud and visibility: Extensive cloud bases 500-700m, with some banks to 300m nearer the west coast but some lee breaks to the east or northeast of larger mountains. Away from the very poor visibility in the cloud, lower level visibility will be good.

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Mountain Weather Forecast

Forecast for Wednesday 25 Dec 2024

Height (m)	Wind Speed mean/gusts (mph) Wind Direction (blowing from)						
	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
900	33/39 SW	31/37 SW	28/35 SW	27/34 SW	25/31 SW	24/30 SW	24/29 SW
600	26/33 SW	25/31 SW	24/31 SW	22/29 SW	19/25 SW	19/26 SW	19/26 SW
300	11/31 SW	10/28 SW	9/26 SW	9/25 SW	7/23 SW	8/23 SW	8/22 SW
Valley	6/23 SW	6/20 SW	10/22 SW	8/21 SW	7/20 SW	8/20 SW	9/20 SW

Height (m)	Temperature / Feels Like (°C)						
	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
900	4/-2	4/-2	4/-2	4/-3	4/-2	4/-1	5/-1
600	6/0	6/0	6/0	6/0	6/1	6/1	6/2
300	8/5	7/5	8/5	8/5	8/5	8/5	8/5
Valley	9/7	8/7	9/7	9/8	9/8	9/8	9/7
Freezing Level*	2600m	2500m	2200m	2100m	2400m	2500m	2400m

**Level above which ground is expected to be frozen/snow is expected to settle.*

Meteorologist's View

Extensive hill fog at height bringing some difficult conditions at mid and most higher levels, but cloud free above the inversion expected around 700m.

Forecast for Thursday 26 Dec 2024

Weather: Cloudy to overcast with patchy rain, most persistent through the afternoon. Freezing level above all peaks. Winds lighter than Christmas day.

Maximum wind: Southwest 20-25mph easing gradually from mid-morning

Chance of cloud-free hill tops above 800m: 10-20%

Low cloud and visibility: Good becoming moderate or poor in rain, very poor within cloud with bases extensive from 400m.

Temperature: **Valleys:** Plus 5 Celsius increasing 9 Celsius for the afternoon
At 800m: Plus 5 Celsius
Freezing level: Above the summits

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Mountain Weather Forecast

Ground Conditions Supplement

Date: Tuesday 24 December 2024. Location: Helvellyn summit at 10:15 Full report: The Helvellyn summit today saw higher temperatures and light rain stripping nearly all but the odd isolated areas of wet snow, Swirral Edge for example is now snow free to the summit plateau. Whilst the damp and wind combined kept conditions feeling uncomfortable it was distinctly warm for the time of year at summit level. Any remaining snow is very isolated and likely avoidable on all routes. Despite the relatively high temperatures today, conditions on the Fells remain quite serious as the damp and wind combined can easily bring on hypothermia or just make the going tough. Equally, the cloud base today was low, down to around 400-500m at times and with very poor visibility, this requires very good navigation skills whilst on the move higher up. Full winter clothing is still required if venturing out on to the Fells, as well as general safety equipment such as a group shelter and spare layers, and with the short days a good head-torch. Currently technical winter equipment (ice axe + crampons) would not be required for the majority of routes across the region. Expect similar conditions over the coming days as reported today and prepare for low visibility and damp conditions. Temperature: plus 7.3 C, Maximum wind speed 21.2 mph, Wind chill: plus 1.8 C, Average wind speed: 13.5 mph

Issued at: 02:18 on Wed 25 Dec 2024

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